

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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FEDERAL PREPAREDNESS AGENCY (GSA)

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 USNATO 6095

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: DPC, MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: DPC MEETING NOVEMBER 6. UK PLANS FOR REINFORCEMENT OF
OF FORCES IN FRG

REF: A. USNATO 5362 DTG 011646Z OCT 75

B. USNATO 5361 DTG 011645Z OCT 75

C. USNATO 5564 DTG 131610Z OCT 75

D. USNATO 6023 DTG 061140Z NOV 75

E. USNATO 5897 DTG 291905Z OCT 75

SUMMARY: UK BRIEFED DPC NOVEMBER 6 ON REINFORCEMENT

PLANS FOR BRITISH FORCES IN FRG. UK DESCRIBED

PLANS TO AIRLIFT AND SEALIFT A TOTAL OF 129,000 MEN

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(ARMY AND AIR FORCE), 19,000 VEHICLES, 100 AIR CRAFT AND 40,000
TONS OF STOCKS TO CONTINENT WITHIN 15 DAYS, WITH BRITISH ARMY OF
THE RHINE (BAOR) AUGMENTED TO OPERATIONAL STRENGTH WITHIN FIRST
FIVE DAYS. MOVEMENT RESOURCES, INCLUDING CIVIL AIR TRANSPORT,

ARE MORE THAN ADEQUATE. UK HAS COMPLETED OR WILL SHORTLY COMPLETE AGREEMENTS WITH BELGIUM AND NETHERLANDS FOR HOST NATION ASSISTANCE IN RECEPTION AND FORWARD MOVEMENT, AND PARTICIPATES ACTIVELY IN MULTINATIONAL PLANNING BODIES FOR COORDINATION. PERMREPS' QUESTIONS CENTERED ON UK AUTHORITY TO CALL RESERVISTS, UK VIEWS ON PRESTOCKAGE, LINK BETWEEN ALERT SYSTEM AND BOTH MOBILIZATION AND MOVEMENT, UK PARTICIPATION IN CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING ORGANS AND PREVIOUSLY-UNRECOGNIZED LARGE DRAWDOWN ON UK PEACETIME STRENGTH IN FRG (UP TO 25,000 MEN) FOR LEAVE, SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS AND TRAINING. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING NOVEMBER 6 UK BRIEFING TO DPC ON BRITISH PLANS FOR REINFORCEMENT OF BAOR, SYG LUNS OPENED MEETING BY NOTING THAT PRESENTATION WOULD FOLLOW UP ON SEPTEMBER 30 DPC BRIEFING ON REORGANIZATION OF THE BRITISH ARMY (REFS A AND B). HE NOTED THAT PREVIOUS BRIEFING HAD INCLUDED REFERENCE TO REINFORCEMENT OF BRITISH FORCES IN FRG, AND WELCOMED FURTHER DETAILED ON THIS SUBJECT. HE THEN GAVE FLOOR TO UK PERREP KILLICK. KILLICK NOTED TIMELINESS OF SUBJECT OF REINFORCEMENT, SINCE FLEXIBILITY STUDY IS UNDER REVIEW AT NATO HEADQUARTERS, AND SINCE SACEUR HAD RAISED SUBJECT AS A PRIORITY ITEM DURING PRESENTATION TO DPC TWO DAYS PREVIOUSLY (REF D). HE NOTED THAT UK REINFORCEMENT PLANS ARE UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW, AND WELCOMED OPPORTUNITY FOR UK TO GIVE FURTHER PRESENTATION ON BRITISH DEFENSE PLANS. HE STATED THAT PRESENT BRIEFING WOULD BE LIMITED TO CENTER REGION, BUT WOULD COVER BOTH ARMY AND AIR FORCE FORCES. HE THEN INTRODUCED BRIEFING TEAM COMPOSED OF BRIGADIER WILSON, DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE OPERATIONS PLANS MOD UK, AND HIS ASSISTANCE COL JENKINS.

2. WILSON BEGAN PRESENTATION BY NOTING INCREASING INTEREST WITHIN NATO ON SCALE AND TIMING OF PROVISION OF REINFORCEMENT FOR ACD. HE STATED AIM OF PRESENTATION TO INFORM DPC OF METHODS BY WHICH UK, IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALLIES, PLANS TO REINFORCE BRITISH FORCES IN GERMANY IN TIMES OF TENSION AND ESTABLISH AND OPERATE LOCS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THESE FORCES. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, HE NOTED THAT A GREAT DEAL OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE HAD BEEN GAINED DURING RECENT YEARS ON TRAVEL BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE CONTINENT:

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DURING PEAK HOLIDAY SEASONS, SOME 18,500 VEHICLES AND 103,000 PEOPLE PASS BETWEEN UK AND FRANCE AND THE BENELUX COUNTRIES IN A SINGLE DAY, MOST BY SEA. WILSON THEN OUTLINED HIS PRESENTATION AS FOLLOWS:

- UK SYSTEM OF MOBILIZATION
- EFFECT OF REORGANIZATION OF BRITISH ARMY ON RESERVES
- MAJOR REINFORCEMENT PLANS
- MOVEMENT ASPECTS OF REINFORCEMENT
- HOST NATION ASSISTANCE
- COMMAND AND CONTROL ASPECTS OF REINFORCEMENT
- FUTURE REINFORCEMENT PLANNING

3. MOBILIZATION PLANS. WILSON STATED THAT DECISION TO CALL OUT

RESERVES WILL BE MADE BY GOVERNMENT IN CABINET, TAKING "DUE WEIGHT OF THE ADVICE AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NATO AUTHORITIES". HE SAID CALL-OUT WOULD BE AUTHORIZED BY A QUEEN'S ORDER, SIGNED BY DEFENSE MINISTER, WHO COULD EXERCISE DISCRETION REGARDING NUMBER OF RESERVISTS CALLED, THUS INSTIGATING A SELECTIVE CALL-OUT SYSTEM. HE SAID THAT UK HAD PRACTICED SELECTIVE PROCEDURE IN ASSOCIATION WITH WINTEX-75, AND THAT UK FEELS IT NOW HAS FLEXIBILITY TO MEET A DEVELOPING SITUATION. HE NOTED THAT, AS GENERAL RULE, VOLUNTEER RESERVE UNITS WOULD MOVE TO FRG AS COMPLETE UNITS, WITH ADVANTAGE THAT UNITS CAN IMMEDIATELY DEPLOY TO THEIR OPERATIONAL AREAS. HE ADDED THAT UK HAS PRACTICED BOTH MOBILIZATION PROCEDURES AND IN-THEATER MOVEMENT TO COMBAT LOCATIONS, MOST RECENTLY DURING EXERCISE "INSIDE RIGHT", INVOLVING 20,000 MEN.

4. EFFECT OF ARMY REORGANIZATION. WILSON NOTED THAT VOLUNTEER RESERVE, IN REORGANIZED BRITISH ARMY, WILL BE FAR MORE CLOSELY INVOLVED WITH REGULAR ARMY IN PEACETIME, WITH OBVIOUS BENEFIT TO TRAINING. HE ALSO NOTED THAT REORGANIZED BRITISH ARMY WOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE TOTAL OF 78,000 (INCREASE OF 5,000) TO REINFORCE BAOR.

5. UK REINFORCEMENT PLANS. PLANNING IS CONDUCTED FOR 5 GROUPS OF PEOPLE, AS FOLLOWS:

A. BAOR REGULARS ON LEAVE OR TRAINING IN THE UK (8,000 TO 17,000): THESE PERSONNEL CAN REJOIN THEIR UNITS IN FRG WITHIN FOUR DAYS, USING ALL AVAILABLE RESOURCES.

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B. UNITS TEMPORARILY DEPLOYED IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND CYPRUS (8,000): COMPLETION OF THEIR MOVEMENT (WITHIN 72 HOURS) WILL BRING BAOR UP TO OPERATIONAL STRENGTH.

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C. PRELIMINARIES TO MAIN REINFORCEMENT: THESE 2400 PERSONNEL, PRIMARILY REQUIRED TO ENHANCE MOVEMENT CONTROL, WOULD BE DEPLOYED WITHIN 24 HOURS.

D. MAIN REINFORCEMENT (OPERATION BYSTANDER): THIS PLAN, INVOLVING PASSAGE BY AIR AND SEA, WOULD BE PRINCIPAL REINFORCEMENT OF BAOR (67,000 MEN AND 7,000 VEHICLES). ONCE STARTED, CROSS-CHANNEL MOVEMENT WOULD TAKE 5 DAYS.

E. SPECIALIST REGULAR ENGINEER REINFORCEMENT: A TOTAL OF 4500 MEN AND 1250 VEHICLES WOULD BE MOVED. WILSON THEN BRIEFLY COVERED THE THREE UNITS EARMARKED FOR ASSIGNMENT TO NATO WHICH HAVE CENTER REGION REINFORCEMENT ROLES: UK MOBILE FORCE(UKMF) 22 SPECIAL AIR SERVICE REGIMENT AND RAF AUGMENTA-
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TION. UKMF, NUMBERING 34,000 MEN, 76 AIRCRAFT, AND 9600 VEHICLES, CAN BE DEPLOYED WITH 30 DAYS WAR MAINTENANCE RESERVE WITHIN 15 DAYS. UKMF WILL BE REPLACED BY 6TH FIELD FORCE, NUMBERING 13,000 MEN. TOTALLING REINFORCEMENT RESOURCES, WILSON LISTED 129,000 MEN, 100 AIRCRAFT, 19,000 VEHICLES, AND 40,000 TONS OF STOCKS WHICH COULD BE DEPLOYED TO FRG WITHIN 15 DAYS. HE FURTHER NOTED THAT FORCES IN GERMANY WOULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO A WAR FOOTING WITHIN FIRST 5 DAYS. WILSON THEN INTRODUCED COL JENKINS TO COVER NEXT TWO TOPICS.

6. MOVEMENT RESOURCES. JENKINS BEGAN BY NOTING THAT UK HAS INSUFFICIENT MILITARY RESOURCES TO IMPLEMENT REINFORCEMENT PLANS CONCURRENTLY. HE DESCRIBED PEACETIME LEGISLATION GIVING THE GOVERNMENT "POWERS OF DIRECTION" TO SECURE RESOURCES OF NATIONALIZED FERRIES AND BRITISH AIRWAYS IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY. IN ADDITION, UK HAS AGREEMENTS WITH CERTAIN NON-NATIONALIZED SHIPPING COMPANIES, WHEREBY THEY WOULD PROVIDE FURTHER FERRIES, IF REQUIRED. SEA MOVEMENT RESOURCES CONSIST OF MILITARY FLEET OF SIX LOGISTIC LANDING SHIPS AND CIVIL RESOURCES CONSISTING OF 23 ROLL-ON/ROLL-OFF VESSELS. HE STATED THAT UK ALSO PLANS TO USE CONTAINER SHIPS, AND IS CONSIDERING USE OF HOVERCRAFT TO IMPROVE FLEXIBILITY AND SPEED UP MOVEMENT. IN GENERAL, HE DESCRIBED SEA RESOURCES AND PORT

FACILITIES AS ADEQUATE TO MEET ALL UK REQUIREMENTS. REGARDING AIR RESOURCES, HE SAID THAT AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND WILL HAVE STRENGTH OF 62 AIRCRAFT AT END -1975, IN ADDITION TO 70 CIVIL PASSENGER AND NINE CARGO AIRCRAFT AVAILABLE UNDER "POWERS OF DIRECTION". REGARDING MAIN BOAR REINFORCEMENT PLANS, JENKINS STATED THAT UK INTEND

TO USE BRITISH AIRWAYS CIVIL AIRCRAFT EXCLUSIVELY FOR MOVE OF SOME 55,000 MEN BY AIR. REGARDING ONWARD SURFACE MOVEMENT FROM PORTS TO AIRHEADS, HE STATED THAT ROAD ROUTE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FROM CHANNEL PORTS OF ENTRY TO FRG, INCLUDING FEEDER ROUTES. HE STATED THAT IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT UK WILL BE ALLOWED TO MOVE 2400 VEHICLES PER DAY ALONG THIS ROUTE, WHICH MEETS UK REQUIREMENTS. UK REINFORCEMENT PLANS ALSO MAKE USE OF CONTINENTAL RAILWAY NETWORKS.

7. HOST NATION ASSISTANCE. JENKINS STATED THAT UK-BELGIAN NEGOTIATIONS ARE WELL ADVANCED, AND THAT MOU WILL BE SIGNED SHORTLY. UK-NETHERLANDS MOU WAS SIGNED WITHIN PAST WEEK. IN ADDITION, UK IS CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING ON AGREEMENT WITH FRACNE TO PROVIDE NECESSARY FACILITIES FOR AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE. JENKINS THEN MENTIONED
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MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF CONFLICT BETWEEN UK LOG REQUIREMENTS AND THOSE OF THE U.S. HE NOTED THAT THE U.S. HAS RECENTLY REVISED ITS LOG POLICY, NOW PLANNING TO RELY HEAVILY ON HOST NATION RESOURCES. HE STATED THAT IN THEORY THERE SHOULD BE NO CONFLICT, SINCE THE U.S. PLANS PRIMARILY TO USE ANTWERP AND ROTTERDAM. IN ADDITION, FIRST U.S. STOCKS ARE NOT SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE ON CONTINENT UNTIL AFTER UK REINFORCEMENTS ARE COMPLETE. UK INTENDS, HOWEVER, TO KEEP ITS LOG OPEN INDEFINITELY TO PERMIT FLOW OF STORES AND EQUIPMENT. THERE IS POSSIBILITY, THEREFORE, THAT OVERLAP BETWEEN UK REQUIREMENTS AND U.S. REQUIREMENTS COULD OCCUR. HE SAID THAT THIS HAS BEEN HIGHLIGHTED BY U.S. INTENTION TO USE ZEEBRUGGE FOR TRAIN-FERRY TRANSPORTATION OF AMMUNITION. ZEEBRUGGE IS ONLY PORT AVAILABLE IN BENELUX COUNTRIES FOR THIS PURPOSE. JENKINS STRESSED THAT "EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD RELATIONSHIPS" EXIST BETWEEN UK AND U.S. IN THIS FIELD. IN MUTUAL ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY AND AVOID INTERFERENCE PROBLEM, U.S. AND UK HAVE PREVAILED ON HQ AFCEANT TO SET UP A WORKING PARTY, ON WHICH ALL MAJOR COMMANDS CONCERNED ARE REPRESENTED, TO REFINE AND DEFINE THE VARIOUS NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.

8. COMMAND AND CONTROL. WILSON BRIEFLY DESCRIBED LIAISON ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN UK AUTHORITIES AND NATO CIVIL AVIATION PLANNING COMMITTEE, CROSS-CHANNEL COORDINATING COMMITTEE, INTERNATIONAL AIRLIFT COORDINATION CENTER, AND AUTHORITY FOR COORDINATION OF TRANSPORTATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE (ACTICE). HE SAID THAT UK MAINTAINS A NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON STAFF TO COORDINATE BETWEEN CINCENT AND MOK UK IN THE FIELD S OF LOGISTICS, CIVIL AND MILITARY COOPERATION, AND MANPOWER.

9. FUTURE REINFORCEMENT PLANNING. WILSON SAID THAT FOLLOWING SUBJECTS ARE UNDER STUDY: ASSESSMENT OF COSTS OF UPGRADING

MILITARY AIR FIELDS IN EUROPE TO HANDLE TRI-STAR; A STUDY ENTITLED "CONCURRENCY", WHICH IS LOOKING AT UK'S ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT MORE THAN ONE REINFORCEMENT PLAN SIMULTANEOUSLY; AND NATO STUDY ON GREATER USE OF CIVIL AIRLIFT.

10. CONCLUSIONS. IN CONCLUSION, WILSON NOTED THAT UK REGULARLY PRACTICES ITS REINFORCEMENT PLANS. HE SAID UK IS CONFIDENT THAT, SINCE ALL RESERVISTS ARE VOLUNTEERS, RESERVE UNITS COULD BE FULLY EFFECTIVE IN SHORT TIME. HE STATED THAT COOPERATION AND PLANNING FOR HOST NATION ASSISTANCE IS WELL UNDER CONTROL. FINALLY, HE
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NOTED THAT MOST MOVEMENT OF REGULAR UNITS WOULD TAKE PLACE EARLY IN A PERIOD OF TENSION; THAT SUCH MOVEMENT WOULD TAKE, IN THE WORST CASE, ONLY 5 DAYS; AND ALL REINFORCEMENT WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN 15 DAYS.

11. SYG LUNS THANKED BRIEFING TEAM AND ASKED, NOTING UK ABILITY TO MOVE 129,000 MEN, WHETHER THIS WAS AN UPGRADING FROM NUMBER OF TEN YEARS AGO. WILSON RESPONDED THAT CERTAINLY EMPHASIS HAD SHIFTED TO CONTINENT IN PAST YEARS, BUT WAS UNABLE TO GIVE SPECIFIC ANSWER ON TRENDS OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS. GENERAL COLLADAY (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, MC) NOTED THAT MC HAD RECEIVED SIMILAR PRESENTATION AND HAD ASKED SACEUR TO PROVIDE "INTERIM IMPRESSION" OF THE EFFECT OF BRITISH ARMY RESTRUCTURING ON REINFORCEMENT PLANS. ABM BAROGH (NETHERLANDS) ASKED WHAT TYPE AND SIZE UNITS WOULD BE MOVING ACROSS BELGIUM AND NETHERLANDS. WILSON RESPONDED THAT THEY WOULD BE COMBAT, COMBAT SUPPORT, AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT UNITS OF BATTALION SIZE. SYG INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER UNIT MOVEMENT HAD BEEN TESTED. WILSON REPLIED THAT DURING "INSIDE RIGHT" ABOUT 1400 MEN HAD MOVED, IN UNITS, ACROSS THE CHANNEL. JENKINS ADDED THAT IT IS THE TASK AND RESPONSIBILITY OF HOST NATIONS TO COORDINATE MOVEMENT.

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12. U.S. CHARGE SAID HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD STUDY PRESENTATION WITH GREAT INTEREST AND CARE, NOTING THAT, AS A NATION WITH HEAVY REINFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES, U.S. APPRECIATES NEED FOR THOROUGH ADVANCE PLANNING TO INSURE TIMELY ARRIVAL AND DEPLOYMENT OF REINFORCEMENTS IN PERIODS OF TENSION. HE NOTED OCTOBER 9 U.S. STATEMENT TO NAC(REFC) STRESSING VITAL IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHES TO EFFECTIVE CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING, AND SACEUR NOVEMBER 4 STATEMENT TO DPC (REF D), WHICH REMINDED ALLIES OF IMPORTANCE OF THIS TYPE OF PLANNING. CHARGE NOTED LARGE NUMBER OF VEHICLES AND STOCKS WHICH WOULD BE TRANSPORTED TO CONTINENT AS PART OF UK REINFORCEMENT PLANS. HE ASKED IF UK HAS GIVEN CONSIDERATION TO PRESTOCKING ON THE CONTINENT, AND WHAT GENERAL VIEWS UK HAS ON PRESTOCKING. WILSON REPLIED THAT TOTAL MOVEMENT FIGURES ARE NOT LARGE, COMPARED WITH DAILY TOURIST AND COMMERCIAL TOTALS. HE SAID THAT LARGE
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PROPORTION OF REINFORCEMENTS CONSTITUTING UKMF (WHICH ALSO HAS NORTHERN REGION REINFORCEMENT ROLE) REQUIRED RETENTION OF ITS EQUIPMENT IN THE UK. FURTHERMORE, HE NOTED CONFLICT BETWEEN FORWARD STOCKPILING AND NECESSITY FOR TRAINING AT HOME. CHARGE NOTED THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO START MOVEMENT OF MEN AND SUPPLIES IN A TIMELY WAY, IF NECESSARY WITHOUT WAITING FOR DECLARATION OF NATO ALERT MEASURES. HE ASKED HOW CLOSELY LINKED UK PLANS ARE TO NATO ALERT SYSTEM, AND HOW INTERDEPENDENT MOBILIZATION AND MOVEMENT PLANS ARE; I.E., CAN MOVEMENT START WITHOUT MOBILIZATION DECISION? RESPONSE WAS THAT NEITHER MOBILIZATION NOR MOVEMENT PLANS ARE SPECIFICALLY TIED TO NATO ALERT MEASURES, BUT TO FIRM INTELLIGENCE WARNING THAT SOVIETS ARE "ADOPTING A WAR POSTURE". CHARGE INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER PLANS ARE KEYED TO RECEPTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR RECEIVING COUNTRIES. RESPONSE WAS AFFIRMATIVE. SYG INQUIRED AS TO CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY TO CALL UP THE RESERVES. RESPONSE WAS THAT RESERVISTS CAN BE CALLED UP UNDER THE RESERVE FORCES ACT BY MOD, AND THAT NO PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE IS REQUIRED. CHARGE ASKED WHETHER PLANS FOR USE OF AIR TRANSPORT AND EUROPEAN INLAND SURFACE TRANSPORT ARE ORGANIZED ONLY BILATERALLY OR COORDINATED WITH PLANS FOR CIVIL WARTIME AGENCIES DEVELOPED WITHIN NATO'S CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING STRUCTURE. IN THIS CONNECTION, CHARGE NOTED THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED BY PLANS FOR USE OF CIVIL AIR FLEET, WHICH SEEMS TO MESH WITH US EFFORTS TO PLAN FOR USE OF CIVIL

RESERVE AIR FLEET IN CRISIS PERIODS. JENKINS NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES IN MULTINATIONAL PLANNING OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS. NATURALLY, BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ARE REQUIRED, BUT HE FELT THAT, AS A RESULT OF ONGOING WORK, PARTICULARLY AT AFCEC AND WITH PBEIST, ALL NATIONS ARE SPEAKING WITH THE SAME VOICE.

13. BACON (CANADIAN CHARGE) ASKED HOW UK WOULD MOVE 5900 TROOPS FROM NORTHERN IRELAND TO CONTINENT. JENKINS RESPONDED THAT BOTH AIR AND SEA MOVEMENT WOULD BE USED; WILSON ADDED THAT ALL FORCES IN NORTHERN IRELAND ARE UNDER 24 HOURS' NOTICE TO MOVE BACK TO FRG. KILLICK (UK) ASKED WHETHER TRANSPORT ASSETS USED TO MOVE TROOPS TO CONTINENT COULD ALSO BE USED TO MOVE UK NATIONALS BACK HOME IN TIME OF TENSION. JENKINS REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; ADDING THAT UK WILL HAVE AN EXCESS OF TRANSPORTATION CAPABILITY FOR THIS PURPOSE. FRG (KRAPF) NOTED LARGE NUMBERS OF TROOPS MISSING FROM BAOR IN PEACETIME (8,000 TO 17,000 ON LEAVE OR SCHOOLING IN THE UK, 8,000 IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND CYPRUS). HE ASKED UK TEAM TO VERIFY
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THE ANYWHERE FROM 16,000 TO 25,000 MEN COULD BE ABSENT IN PEACETIME. RESPONSE WAS THAT HIGHER NUMBER WOULD BE ABSENT DURING CHRISTMAS PERIOD, BUT THAT THE NUMBERS, WHICH ARE COMPOSED OF BOTH ARMY AND AIR FORCE, ARE CORRECT. SYG INQUIRED WHETHER UK IS CAPABLE OF MOUNTING A "REFORGER" TYPE OPERATION. WILSON RESPONDED THAT HE HAD BEEN SUGGESTING SOMETHING LIKE IT; HOWEVER, SUCH AN OPERATION WAS NOT QUITE AS RELEVANT FOR UK AS IT IS FOR U.S. BECAUSE OF MUCH SHORTER MOVEMENT DISTANCE INVOLVED.
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